

His Holiness Sri Satguru Jagjit Singh Maharaj

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Pandit Gopal Singh offering *Ardas* (Prayer) before HH Satguru Jagjit Singh to shower his blessings for rain in drought stricken Britain in London 1976.

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ਸ੍ਰੀ ਸਤਿਗੁਰੂ ਰਾਮ ਸਿੰਘ ਜੀ ਸਹਾਇ॥

His Holiness Satguru Jagjit Singh

20 Nov 1920 – 13 Dec 2012

Five centuries ago, Satguru Nanak Dev offered a positive life style of spirituality free of superstition and development of community values, *Kirt Karo* (honest work), *Nám Japo* (mantra-meditation), *Vand Shako* (share with others). Affectionately he also became Guru of Hindus and Pir (religious teacher) of Muslims. From his successor Guru Angad Dev to the 9th Sikh Guru Tegh Bahadhur, all promoted the message of the first Sikh Guru including love, religious tolerance, welfare for others, service to humanity, valour, sense of making sacrifices through action as well as offering discourses to their Sikh faithful. Satguru Gobind Singh the 10th Sikh Master developed, the inevitable Khalsa. And later during the reign of Sikh Maharajas, the *Khalsa* became engrossed by vices associated with wealth, power, superiority and consequently fell victim to the British Raj. 12th Sikh Satguru Ram Singh appeared to revive the lost face of the Sikhism and to lay the mantra of freedom. On 12th April 1857 he, together with his Namdhari Sikhs, raised the first flag of India's independence at Sri Bhaini Sahib, a small hamlet between the cities of Ludhiana and Chandigarh in Punjab, India. He made people aware of their glorious legacy and confronted British tyrannical rule. The British deported Satguru Ram Singh to Andaman and Nicobar Islands (Kala Pani) in the Bay of Bengal. Satguru Hari Singh kept the flame of freedom struggle burning with his patience and astuteness. The British Government enforced indescribable and excruciating atrocities on Namdhari Sikhs. A permanent police post was established at Sri Bhaini Sahib. All Namdhari Sikhs were branded as criminals. Satguru Partap Singh disseminated the divine message of the all his predecessors with an exemplary truthful way of life. To invalidate the nefarious principle of 'divide and rule' the hallmark of the British Empire and to spread a feeling of fraternity and harmony, he organised several interactive assemblies of all the like-

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minded organizations, which were struggling to attain national freedom and thus provided the support and base of the philosophy of Satguru Ram Singh and his pioneering principle of boycott of British goods and services and non-cooperation against the British authorities. Sixty years later Mahatma Gandhi picked up the baton of Satguru Ram Singh's *Compassionate Resistance*.

Born in Jail – Seeks to Free Mankind

The British had setup a permanent police post at Dharamsala or Gurudwara (Sikh holy place of worship) Sri Bhaini Sahib, turning the residence of India's freedom struggle into a jail. It was in this prison that Satguru Partap Singh and Mata Bhupinder Kaur were blessed with birth of Satguru Jagjit Singh (Satguruji) on 22nd November 1920 (8th Maghar 1977 Bikrmi Kattak Sudi Ikadshi).

Owing to boycott of the schools and services run by the British in India, Satguru Partap Singh set up a Vidyala, like the Ashrams of ancient saints where Satguru Jagjit Singh studied Sanskrit, Hindi, Punjabi, English, Indian classical music, horticulture, trades linked with craftsmanship, correct recitation and reading of sacred scriptures based on Sanatan Dharma including *Gurbani* (Sacred Sikh Scriptures), as well as *Gurbani Kirtan* (devotional music) and knowledge of *Pingal* as well. He was fond of participating in kabbadi, khiddo-kundi (hockey), football, gatka (martial arts) and swimming as well as horse riding and polo. He was introduced to husbandry and health care of cows, buffaloes, and thoroughbred horses. Satguruji rendered cooperation to organizations struggling to attain country's freedom by participating in their processions and organizing their meetings. He deliberated on relevant matters with leaders of all political parties. He assisted his father in organising and implementing various social, political and religious activities together with his younger brother Maharaj Bir Singh. This enabled him to come in contact with the masses, understand their problems at the grass root level and acquire deep knowledge of all spheres of life. On 22nd August 1959, Satguru Jagjit Singh became the master of innumerable hearts of the Namdhari Sikhs.

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Partition

Before quitting India, Britain divided India and created a new state of Pakistan for Muslims. Prior to 1947 Satguru Partap Singh visited West Punjab and encouraged Sikhs and Hindus to go south across the River Ravi for rehabilitation to 1600 acres of land that he had purchased at Sri Jiwan Nagar in District Sirsa, Haryana, India and gave refugee families in their thousands free allotments to live and work in peace.

The partition of the country in 1947 saw ghastly scenes of communal riots, looting, burning property and murder. People were crying in strife. Indian political leaders were satisfying themselves by sitting on hunger strikes in protest against riots, whilst Satguru Partap Singh and the young Satguru Jagjit Singh endeavoured to protect Hindus, Sikhs and Muslims through day and night vigil and providing them shelter and food. Hindus and Sikhs protected their own counterparts but Muslim caravans passing via Sri Bhaini Sahib and Sri Jiwan Nagar were protected and offered food.

Sacred Ceremonies

Satguru Jagjit Singh used to arrange collection of water from wells for early morning showers for his Sikhs and Sadhus, and assisted to cook continous 24 hour vegetarian food in the community kitchen, clean the utensils of visitors, as well as to perform all duties to manage Sri Bhaini Sahib and Sri Jiwan Nagar for thousands of followers during festivals who would come to seek his blessings and heal those who were sick. During the fifty-five years of his spiritual authority, Satguruji organised:

• 125,000 recitations of *Sri Adi Granth Sahib* (Sikh Scriptures), three times

• 125,000 recitations of *Chandi Di Var* (Sacred text from Sikh Scriptures of *Sri Dasam Granth Sahib*) and perform great *Havan Yagyas*, five times

• Recitations from two *Akhand Varnis* (continous meditation for certain period) to sixteen

• The annual *Nam-Simran* (mantra-meditation) expanded to Thailand, United Kingdom, Ireland, and many countics in mainland Europe, Kenya, Tanzania, United Arab Emirites, United States of America, Canada, Australasia as well as different parts of India, where hundreds of thousand

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Namdhari Sikhs participate for at least eight hours daily for 40 continuous days.

• A continuous *Nam-Simran at* Sri Bhaini Sahib, where children aged from five to pensioners take part.

When the World Slept, Satguruji was Awake

Satguruji contributed his presence in all events despite his busy schedule, getting up early in the morning, after purifying his physical body he greeted every new day with prayer ,meditation and worship from 2am until sunrise. Which followed by listening to Kirtan of *Asa di Var*, reciting Sikh sacred texts, *Rahat Nama Patshahi Varmi, Japji, Shabad Hazaray, Jaap Sahib, Shabad Hazaray Patshahi Dasvi, Anand Sahib, Sukhmani, Shakay Shand, Asa di Var, Akal Ustat, Chandi Charitar Dusra, Chandi di Var, Augagdanti, Syvaya Kalki Avtar, Ramkali di Var, Rehras, Kirtan Sohila, and Shastar Nam Mala*, constituted his daily assignments. Meditating and partaking in Gurbani Kirtan in the afternoon and he would encourage his devotees to *'meditate the gur mantra given to us by Guru Nanak for one hour daily and every family must read Sri Adi Granth Sahib or Sri Dasam Granth Sahib once a month".*

Social Customs

Namdhari Sikh marriage system has been very much simplified and inter-caste marriages within the Namdhari community have been encouraged. All customary marriage celebrations have been prohibited. The bridegroom and his parents are not allowed to claim dowry in any form. He appointed Namdhari Sikh women as *Subas*, (regional representative of Satguruji) offering further equal rights to women. He solved feuds between Sikhs. He addressed queries from all to make them understand the values of the tenets of Sikhism.

Education

Satguru Jagjit Singh took special interest in the development of the youngsters and established following schools:

• *Guru Hari Singh Vidyala* at Sri Jiwan Nagar, Haryana, India

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- *Kala Kendra* to promote Indian classical music in Sri Bhaini Sahib
- *Shaheed Bishan Singh Memorial Higher Sec School* in New Delhi, India
- *Atal Parupi Kanya Maha Vidyalaya* in Sant Nagar, Haryana, India
- *Namdhari School* at Mandi, Himachal Pardesh, India
- *Satguru Partap Singh Academy* in Sri Bhaini Sahib
- *International School* in Bangkok, Thailand

Satguru Ram Singh Chair established at:

- Sampurana Nand Sanskrit University at Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh, India
- Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, Punjab, India

He established *Sarab Hind Namdhari Vidyak Sanstha* (All India Namdhari Educational Organization) in 1964, with objectives to:

- Provide need-based education to the youth to sharpen their personality, brighten their future, and to provide them with a platform for unity.
- To protect the youth from the ill-effects of foreign cultures

At their annual meetings, the Namdhari youth had an opportunity to share their views, interact with each other, to clarify their doubts and to have direct link with their Satguruji. The abuse of drug and alcohol and promotion of vegetarianism were very important to him.

Satguru Jagjit Singh made several successful efforts for the development of the mother tongue, Punjabi. He sent teachers to educate Punjabi to Namdhari Sikhs of all ages living abroad. He also organized and participated in International Punjabi Conferences all over the world and cooperated with the organizations engaged in the promotion of Punjabi.

At Sri Bhaini Sahib on 15th October 2000, the famous Punjabi scholar Professor Pritam Singh said, *" I am glad that Sri Satguru Jagjit Singhji has not only looked after his own but the Shiromani (famous) scholars of Punjabi as well".* Satguruji did not lent his hand to Namdhari Sikhs only, but also cooperated, guided and helped those who were capable of doing something special in their own field of activity to attain their goal. Irrespective of whether it was Pandits Rajan Sajan Mishra, Dr Musharraf Ali or individuals from all walks of life. Satguruji helped all, who came to him.

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Non-Violence was His Weapon

Satguru Jagjit Singh's main weapon was personal conduct of the individual and non-violence. To attain freedom and peace he taught non-violence of thought, word and deed, non-violence in food (vegetarianism) and non-violence in social and international relations, non-violence in business and non-violence in religion. He taught that non-violence is mankind's greatest and safest weapon to fight the continuous war for peace.

Sports

Satguru Jagjit Singh was very fond of sports and encouraged youngsters to participate in badminton, hockey, kabaddi, volleyball, football, roller-skating and etc. The famous Namdhari Eleven hockey team had acclaimed recognition at both national and International levels where they enjoy playing in Namdhari attire and have represented India at Olympics and are in the current Indian National Hockey team. To further boost this game to International standards, a hockey stadium with astro turf has been installed at Sri Bhaini Sahib.

Freedom from Religious Terrorism

Satguru Jagjit Singh prophesied that the modern man must strive to attain freedom from, war, crime, cruelty, drugs, drunken-ness, gender bias, sexual abuse, social violence, hunger, disease, racial prejudice and religious terrorism. He preached the alleviation of the mind from *tamgun* state (dark, and dull, benefits neither the mind nor the body. Prana, or energy, is withdrawn, powers of reasoning become clouded and a sense of inertia sets in. The body's resistance to disease is destroyed and the mind filled with negative emotions, anger, jealousy and greed) to *satgun* state (One should focus on work, self-improvement and intellectual or spiritual pursuits. Maintaining a positive nature, demonstrating generosity, kindness, openness, fairness (equality) and forgiveness also increases Satgun. In addition spiritual inclination, faith and belief in the Divine Consciousness engaging in selfless service or charitable activities).

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• *Kala Kendra* to promote Indian classical music in Sri Bhaini Sahib
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Environment

Satguruji planned to establish fruit orchards with the help of Department of Agriculture in Sri Jiwan Nagar in 1945. The soil test reports indicated suitability for fruits of citrus family. Satguruji was keenly fond of making impossible possible. So he encouraged the plantation of grapes, guavas, mandarins, sweet oranges and grape fruits. It was his efforts of bringing in agricultural diversification due to his farsightedness. The presently prevailing problems associated with wheat-paddy rotation in the state have become a cause of serious concern for the Government and farmers that has made them to seriously think of agricultural diversification. Satguruji initiated steps of addressing the market related problems and as to how to promote profitability from smallholdings, as early as 1962. His prophetic thinking led to the establishment of 'Namdhari Seeds' that is now world famous for producing vegetable, fruit and plant seeds. Satguruji encouraged the importation of some breeds of plants, trees, and flowers from overseas into India and successfully tried their plantation.

The Saviour of the Poor, Old and Sick

Satguru Jagjit Singh was very kind and affectionate towards those unfortunately suffering from disease, homelessness and old age. He brought in some important welfare programmes;

- The Satguru Partap Singh Apollo Hospital sits amidst the sprawling industrial city of Ludhiana, where people can get benefit of modern advanced treatments of many of the complicated ailments. The poor are specially benefited with this facility.
- Provision of houses, accommodation and vehicles at various places, free of cost to a large number of sewadars or volunteers.
- Care homes at Sri Bhaini Sahib and Sri Jiwan Nagar, where care is provided to the elderly.

Satguruji not only strived to conserve the rich Indian heritage but also looked after all the elder community and not just Namdhari Sikhs. He

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cared for people who devoted their lives for India's freedom, culture, and heritage. This short list includes;

- Baba Sohan Singh Bhakna, famous leader of Gadar Party,
- Sardar Rajinder Singh, brother of Shaheed Bhagat Singh,
- Sardar Gulab Singh Athlete, gold medal winner,
- Sant Singh Sekhon, famous Punjabi scholar,
- Pandit Sunder Lal, famous historian,
- Comrade Surjit Khurshidi.

Intellectuals, scholars and writers regularly turned to him. They ever look for his blessings. Not only to strive for the good of humanity in the welfare areas but also for world peace and well-being of all creatures. He inspired them, he guided them to follow the path, which he leads to great and rewarding destinations. Every day his life gives many things to many people in many forms, for their own good and for the good of those around them, through thought word and deed. In recognition of the services to the advancements and development of Namdhari Sikh values, eminent musicians and literary figures, were bestowed by Satguruji, who had created special awards i.e. *Panth Rattan, Gyan Martand, and Ashirvad Purskar.*

History and Literature

Continued research of historical events is essential for the dynamic progress of any society. Satguru Jagjit Singh paid specific attention towards this important aspect. Namdhari scholars have been searching various documents relating to Satguru Ram Singh and his deportation in India as well as London and have even visited the places in Burma where Satguru Ram Singh was detained.

By his pious blessings under mentioned historical events were organized:

- Sikh Anand Karaj centenary celebrations in 1963
- 5th century celebrations of Satguru Nanak Dev's holy incarnation in 1969
- Satguru Partap Singh's holy incarnation centenary celebrations in 1989
- Deportation of Satguru Ram Singh centenary in 1972
- 3rd centenary celebrations of the creation of Khalsa in 1999

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• 4th centenary celebrations of Guru Angad Dev's holy incarnation in 2004
• 4th centenary celebrations of Sri Adi Granth Sahib's compilation in 2004
• 150th anniversary of the Kuka Movement in 2007, (also celebrated in the British Houses of Parliament). The Government of India released special silver 5 Rupees coin to general public on this occasion).
• 50th anniversary of spiritual enthronement of Satguru Jagjit Singh in 2008

A great number of books were published in connection with these centenaries as Satguruji took special interest in the publication of literature in Punjabi, Hindi and English.
Satguruji reinforced the publication of *Satyug Weekly*, founded in 1920 by Satguru Partap Singh to promote Namdhari values.

Global Conventions

Satguru Jagjit Singh accorded due respect to the members of other religions and social organizations working for the cause of humanity, without distinction of caste, creed, colour or political affiliations. Satguruji, by participating in all-religion programmes brought creditable glory to the Sikh Dharma at national and international levels.
• In 1961, when he was invited to visit Japan at University of Buddhism, accompanied by Dr Gopal Singh Dardi and Raghubir Singh the established Sikh scholars, the students posed a question to Satguruji, *'What is the religion that is common to all?'* And Satguruji replied *" Bolyay sach dharam jhooth na boliyay" (One should not lie, speaking truth is the greatest dharma).*
• At the conference of the World Peace Council in Helsinki, Finland, some religious delegates asked him, *'What makes you to be with these Russians, the atheists, the non-believers? They don't have even a remote relation with religion.'* Satguruji responded, *'To speak the truth is the common religion for all. Even for those who don't believe in God, speaking the truth is still a religion. Truth is God. If all turn out to be truthful, there would be no quarrel or fight in the world. Following the preachings of*

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Satguru Nanak, we can achieve universal peace through treading on a path of Sarbat Da Bhala (wellbeing for all)".

• Satguruji supported the International Ramgarhia Convention as its Patron-in-Chief along with Giani Zail Singh former President of India as the Patron, which took place in Slough, UK in January 1993.

• Satguruji participated in the Parliament of World Religions at Cape Town, South Africa in 1999 for the cause of peace, unity and religious harmony.

• In the Assembly Hall of the United Nations Organizations, USA, a function was held in August 2000, where nearly 2000 leaders from 90 countries gathered to participate in the deliberations. While giving a message for world peace, Satguruji sermond, *'For the benefit of others, we must donate out something from our rights; we should never snatch others' rights, we should guard the rights of others and this approach can end all disagreements in the world.'*

• From the time of Satguru Partap Singh, he used to participate in International Vegetarian Congresses and he even organized the 15th World Vegetarian Congress in 1957 at various locations in India including Sri Bhaini Sahib. While addressing the delegates of 25th World Vegetarian Congress in 1979 at Loughborough, UK, he said, *'May not man's stomach become a graveyard for the animals which serve his needs!*

• International Federation of Religions invited religious heads from 22 countries in November 1978 at the time of laying the foundation stone of Peace Temple in Thailand. The visiting religious heads brought with them the soil from their respective countries, which were added in the foundation of the temple. The national flags countries were unfurled and Satguru Jagjit Singh laid the foundation stone of the Peace Temple.

• Satguruji inherited the keen desire for animal husbandry and animal improvement through breeding programmes at Sri Bhaini Sahib and Sri Jiwan Nagar from Satguru Partap Singh. He often participated at national and international cattle shows and offered useful suggestions.

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Gratitude

• Satguru Jagjit Singh was donated the honour of *Gopal Ratan* in 1965 at Hyderabad, India by the Gau-Govardhan Sammiti in recognition of his valuable contribution for the husbandry, improvement and health care of cows.

• Satguruji undertook treatment of countless poor patients. For this charitable activity, the Doctors Association, Punjab, India donated him with *Dharam Rakhyak* Award.

• The International Bhai Mardana Kirtan Darbar Society donated Satguruji with *Bhai Mardana Award* to celebrate his efforts to conserve the authentic ageless traditions of Gurbani Kirtan.

• Satguruji made special efforts to send his devotees to outstanding classical Indian music ustads (maestros) to re-enforce their depth of understanding. He organized sangeet sammelans (musical festivals) in the memory of Satguru Partap Singh, where music lovers would listen to performances by world-class maestros free of charge. For his deep interest and promotion of classical music, the Baba Hariballabh Sangeet Darbar Society donated him with an award of *Sangeetacharaya*.

• Ustad Amjad Ali Khan donated Satguruji with an award of *Sangeet Maneeshi* on behalf of the Ustad Hafiz Ali Khan Memorial Society at Sarod Ghar, Gawalior on 4th November 1999.

• Vishwa Hindu Parishad conferred the highest possible religious honour in India on Satguru Jagjit Singh by offering him *Dharam Rattan* in 2001

• In 2012, The Sangeet Natak Akademi, offered *Fellowship* to HH Satguru Jagjit Singh, which is limited to thirty individuals at any given time and is the highest honour in the music and arts conferred by the Government of India.

With the grace of Satguru Jagjit Singh, the glory of Namdhari Sikh community is at its peak. There was a time, when the pro-British Sri Akal Takhat proclaimed a fatwa that Namdharis were not Sikhs. Now, from the same Sri Akal Takhat, the Namdhari martyrs are declared as martyrs of the *qaum* (Sikh community). Satguru Jagjit Singh was felicitated from the other Takhats Sri Hazoor Sahib and Sri Kesgarh Sahib in India. Bhai

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Sahib Yogi Harbhajan Singh invited Satguruji to his ashrams in the United States on many occasions as well as visiting Sri Bhaini Sahib. Satgurji maintained very cordial cooperation with all renowned Hindu and Sikh Saints of India.

Indian Classical Music

Traditional classical music has played a very significant role in attaining heights in spiritualism. Sikh Guru's have composed hymns called *Shabads* in different *ragas*. In both *Adi Granth Sahib* and *Dasam Granth Sahib*. Satguruji has singularly resurrected the age-old gandharav tradition once again to be enjoyed by the connoisseurs of Indian classical music forte, worldwide. In the Kirtan being performed in the presence of Satguru Jagjit Singh the audience listened to the melodious sounds of all Indian musical instruments like Dilruba, Flute, Rabab, Sitar, Santoor, Sarangi, Sarod, and Surunda.

From the age of five, under his supreme supervision, he inspired thousands of his disciples to learn Indian classical music from the renowned eminent musicians of India. He was also a source of inspiration to many notable Indian classical musicians, who hold Satguruji in very high esteem.

"Indian classical music and spiritualism are two sides of the same coin. Indian Saints and Sages have used music as a medium of meditation. Revered Satguruji is the brightest and most appropriate example of an ideal combination of a great spiritual guru and not only a great lover of music but having deep knowledge of this art. He has amazing knowledge of hundreds of traditional and rare compositions in various ragas and taals. These compositions should be recorded and preserved".

Pandit Shiv Kumar Sharma

"I have never known a spiritual Guru such as 'Satguruji' who is so knowledgeable in the Indian classical musical field. [illegible] delight to witness him playing and teaching his students with [illegible] knowledge,

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Sahib Yogi Harbhajan Singh invited Satguruji to his ashrams in the United States on many occasions as well as visiting Sri Bhaini Sahib. Satgurji maintained very cordial cooperation with all renowned Hindu and Sikh Saints of India.

Indian Classical Music

Traditional classical music has played a very significant role in attaining heights in spiritualism. Sikh Guru's have composed hymns called *Shabads* in different *ragas*. In both *Adi Granth Sahib* and *Dasam Granth Sahib*. Satguruji has singularly resurrected the age-old gandharav tradition once again to be enjoyed by the connoisseurs of Indian classical music forte, worldwide. In the Kirtan being performed in the presence of Satguru Jagjit Singh the audience listened to the melodious sounds of all Indian musical instruments like Dilruba, Flute, Rabab, Sitar, Santoor, Sarangi, Sarod, and Saranda.

From the age of five, under his supreme supervision, he inspired thousands of his disciples to learn Indian classical music from the renowned eminent musicians of India. He was also a source of inspiration to many notable Indian classical musicians, who hold Satguruji in very high esteem.

'Indian classical music and spiritualism are two sides of the same coin. Indian Saints and Sages have used music as a medium of meditation. Revered Satguruji is the brightest and most appropriate example of an ideal combination of a great spiritual guru and not only a great lover of music but having deep knowledge of this art. He has amazing knowledge of hundreds of traditional and rare compositions in various ragas and taals. These compositions should be recorded and preserved".

Pandit Shiv Kumar Sharma

"I have never known a spiritual Guru such as 'Satguruji' who is so knowledgeable in the Indian classical musical field. It was a delight to witness him playing and teaching his students with [illegible] knowledge,

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especially his grasp of rare and original ragas as well as taals (beats) I found very inspiring". Pandit Hari Prasad Chaurasia

"Enlightened Satguruji, you possess immense knowledge of music yourself but you have chosen to nurture musical talents under the guidance of professional musicians. This amply illustrates your love for music........you have therefore become the saviour of Indian Classical Music." Pandits Rajan & Sajan Mishra

"Words fail us when we speak about His Most Exalted Holiness Satguru Jagjit Singhji. His intense love and wholehearted devotion to every aspect of music - deep thought, melody and rhythm - need no testimony, and this art spontaneously permeates his whole life." Pandit Birju Maharaj

"His Holiness Satguru Jagjit Singhji Maharaj has always been a source of great inspiration to many classical musicians of India"
Ustad Amjad Ali Khan

Government Recognised Namdhari Shrines

Sri Bhaini Sahib has been declared a sacred city by the Government of India and has been given a new face-lift as the epicentre of national freedom struggle. Architectural wonders *Partap Mandir* built without any pillars and the biggest hall in Asia, as well as a unique *Ram Sarovar* (holy water pool) without water influx from outside has been created at Sri Bhaini Sahib. Sri Jiwan Nagar carries the holy sanctity of Satguru Partap Singh and Satguru Jagjit Singh and their glorious traditions. In the memory of 66 Namdhari martyrs, a *Namdhari Shaheedi Samarak* (memorial) has been built at Malerkotla, Punjab which is 66 feet high *Khanda*. Memorials at the birthplace of *Satguru Ram Singh* at Raeean near Sri Bhaini Sahib, *Shaheedi Samarak* at Ludhiana and Amritsar and *Satguru Partap Singh Apollo Hospital* in Ludhiana have been built. Satguruji laid the foundation stone of this 300-bed state of the art hospital on 28 October 2000.

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Animal Care and Vegetarianism

His love for animals was immense. One can see the best of the cows, thoroughbred horses, buffaloes in his farms at Sri Bhaini Sahib and Sri Jiwan Nagar.

Satguru Jagjit Singh was a staunch advocate of animal rights and prohibited the use of animal ingredients in food and other preparations. He was a proponent of satvic values and promoted vegetarianism by attending as the Patron of International Vegetarian Congresses in the United States, United Kingdom, Finland, Germany, The Netherlands, Thailand as well as India.

Ego, Greed, Attachment, Anger and Lust

Satguruji spent some 20 hours working every day, and giving *darshan* (audience) to his disciples and visitors. Every day hundreds of people, conscious, concerned and attracted by matters were addressed by Satguruji. Political leaders and statesman of all colours flocked to him for bliss and guidance. They are overwhelmed and benefited by his grace wisdom and blessings. His polite conduct, his winning smile, his sweet words simply won their hearts and minds. They step out of their constraints and barriers to become his followers as he continuously showed the way, and his philosophy to subdue Kaam (Lust), Krodth (Anger), Lobh (Greed), Moh (Emotional Attachment), and Ahankaar (Ego).

Rain God

Satguru Jagjit Singh was given the title of *Rain God* by the British press in 1976. In the draught stricken United Kingdom its population got relief with heavy rainfall by his blessings. A British tabloid *The Sun* dated Saturday, 28th August 1976 reported "*It rained yesterday and Sikhs claimed a hundred per cent success for their holy man, Satguru Jagjit Singh*".

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The Warrior of Peace

The spiritual throne on which he sat, the spiritual qualities and powers he had inherited during his lifetime, continuous conduct of a life of dedication and devotion had turned him into a spiritual powerhouse of energy and bliss. Even a short meeting with him filled one's mind with spiritual ecstasy. His celestial and smiling face casted a magnetic attraction who came close to him. His memory remains always fresh and inspires one to lead a pure and simple life.

He advised rich people not to be proud of their richness and the worldly possessions, as they are all perishable. He advised the strong people not to be proud of their strength, as it is lost with the growing of age. He was very patriotic and said that a man should always do his best as it brings name and fame not only to him but also to the society to which he belongs. He advised his followers to be modest, sincere, true and honest. He was an apostle of love, peace and affection for the humanity. It is impossible to describe Satguru Jagjit Singhji's qualities in words. He is too deep to be measured and too contemplative to be understood.

All the doctrines that he preached and desired his disciples to follow in practice were totally practiced by Satguruji himself. His daily routine was an example for his followers. He followed all the principles of ablution strictly. He bathed and used well water or stream water and spent the entire period on contemplation of Nam Simran, reciting Gurbani, attending religious congregations and listing to Gurbani Kirtan. Thus all the time he remained tuned to the Universal Consciousness spiritually, emotionally, mentally and physically. He showed the way of following the religious doctrines to his disciples who too tried to tread the same path. He attached the highest priorities to religious routine and follows these under even most difficult situations. His Namdhari Sikhs feel contended and satisfied with what they have. They are always ready to help the poor and sick. The Namdhari Sikhs are exemplary and need to be envied upon, for their austere simple peaceful life.

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Satguru Jagjit Singh was an accomplished divine incarnate. Non-Namdhari Sikhs, Hindus of different traditions, Muslims, as well as Christians were amongst his devotees. He was not only a religious guru but also an ideal social reformer. He was a successful administrator with the power of the word and work; he had transformed his era and shown the way to step forward to achieve the ultimate destination of salvation, to millions. Satguruji had an optimistic and progressive personality. He did not tread on the pre-determined paths but his steps produced new paths. When he dwelt in barren lands, they became fertile, put his feet in sand dunes; there became green. With his blessings the deprived children became scholars, musicians, sportspersons, and professionals in every sphere of work. When he visited abroad, the culture and Sikh way of life became glorified. Throughout his life the divine and holy glimpse of Satguruji provided an experience that is full of tranquillity, splendour and excellence. Like rose petals he was always cheerful spreading the fragrance of happiness to every soul. His looks were mesmerizing in transforming everyone as his own. His life style of simplicity, cleanliness, and charity, taking initiative and constructive approach is in fact a message and a source of inspiration for all humanity.

Amarjeet-singh Bhamra
Satguru Ram Singh Foundation for Compassionate Resistance

All material in this tribute to HH Satguru Jagjit Singh has been obtained through historical records.
Presented at a special rememberence service on 13th February 2013 celebrating the life of HH Sri Satguru Jagjit Singh, Spiritul Head of Namdhari Sikhs, hosted by The Rt Hon Lord Paul of Marylebone, House of Lords, London, SW1A 0PW, UK.

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HH Satguru Jagjit Singh at Satguru Ram Singh deportation centenary commemoration in London1972

ਸ੍ਰੀ ਸਤਿਗੁਰੂ ਜੀ ਸੰਨ ੨੦੦੦ ਈ. ਦੇ ਇੰਗਲੈਂਡ ਦੌਰੇ ਸਮੇਂ ਓਥੋਂ ਦੇ ਤਦਵਕਤੀ ਪ੍ਰਧਾਨ ਮੰਤਰੀ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਟੋਨੀ ਬਲੇਅਰ ਨੂੰ ਅਸ਼ੀਰਵਾਦ ਦੇਂਦੇ ਹੋਏ

Former British Prime Minister Tony Blair with HH Satguru Jagjit Singh at 10 Downing Street, London in 2000.

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